

Even though this volume is part of a review series on clinical surgery, it is disappointing that the section on medical management is so cursory. Surgical management methods, including venous thrombectomy, inferior vena cava occlusion, pulmonary embolectomy and the use of intraluminal devices for occlusion are all well described, although the details of these techniques may be of limited interest to the general medical reader. The final chapter fully describes the relation between cor pulmonale and pulmonary embolism.

Despite some obvious inadequacies as a text, this monograph does present an easily read review of pulmonary embolism. The editor's statement that "the information presented here will enhance all clinicians' ability to make critical clinical decisions" is perhaps over-optimistic, but this concise text is worth reading. It will certainly be of value to generalists and primary care physicians as well as trainees of all disciplines preparing for examinations. For specialists it has a limited value as a quickly and easily read summary of a condition with which they may not be entirely up to date.

JAMES B. FORREST, MB, CH B, PH D,
FFARCS

Professor and chairman
Department of anesthesia
McMaster University
Hamilton, Ont.

Treatment of Fractures in Children and Adolescents. Edited by B.G. Weber, Ch. Brunner and F. Freuler. 408 pp. Illust. Springer-Verlag New York Inc., New York, 1980. \$118. ISBN 0-387-09313-3

The purpose of this book is to provide students of orthopedics with basic information about the care and management of fractures in children. It emphasizes that treating a fracture in a growing skeleton differs from treating an adult's fracture.

The text, a synthesis of the experience gained by orthopedic surgeons at meetings of the Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Osteosynthesefragen in Switzerland over a 20-year period, begins by outlining the basic differences between growing

bone and adult bone. The chapters on histomorphology cover the histologic and physiologic features of the epiphyseal plate in adequate detail and depth; clinical examples are given in subsequent sections. The authors emphasize obtaining adequate initial reduction and immobilization rather than relying on growth to correct malreduction. The gist of this introductory section is that physicians must work with nature in healing children's fractures and avoid disturbing the normal sequence of events. However, if the fracture is not healing as it should, intervention is mandatory.

Most of the book deals with specific fractures of different parts of the skeleton. Those who treat fractures in children know that elbow injuries can cause difficulties both in interpreting the roentgenograms and in selecting the treatment. These injuries are given excellent coverage, and there are many diagrams that explain the forces that cause injury and indicate how to correct that injury. Evidently most elbow fractures in children are managed conservatively in Switzerland. Particular types of epiphyseal injury to the elbow are discussed in detail and illustrated with roentgenograms and drawings.

Fractures of the hip joint are covered in similar detail. The authors advocate early open reduction and internal fixation to prevent damage of the blood supply to the femoral head. They stress that since nonoperative treatment and blind manipulation of the fragments increase the danger of avascular necrosis, open reduction with stabilization by means of suitable metal implants is mandatory.

The authors cover fractures of children's arms and legs in great detail. Each one is considered separately, and the various forms of treatment are outlined. Though open reduction with internal fixation is unnecessary for most of these fractures, when surgery does become necessary it must be meticulous.

This book would be a welcome addition to hospital libraries and to the private collections of both general orthopedic surgeons and those who deal exclusively with

childhood injuries. It is an excellent reference book for residents in orthopedics. It covers injuries to the immature musculoskeletal system, advises safe, reliable methods of treatment, gives alternative forms of management for difficult fractures and suggests remedial steps when initial therapy fails.

MICHAEL T. CHAPMAN, MD, FRCS[C]
Division of orthopedic surgery
Wellesley Hospital
Toronto, Ont.

BOOKS

This list is an acknowledgement of books received. It does not preclude review at a later date.

ADVANCES IN CARDIOLOGY. Vol. 27. Current Concepts in Clinical Cardiology. 10th Conference on Cardiovascular Disease in Snowmass-at-Aspen, Aspen, Colo. January 15-19, 1979. Edited by John H.K. Vogel. 360 pp. Illust. S. Karger AG, Basel, 1980. \$118.75. ISBN 3-8055-0098-X

ADVANCES IN OPHTHALMOLOGY. Fortschritte der Augenheilkunde. Progres en Ophtalmologie. Vol. 41. Edited by M.J. Roper-Hall, H. Sautter and E.B. Streiff. 216 pp. Illust. S. Karger AG, Basel, 1980. \$96. ISBN 3-8055-0375-X

ANESTHESIA AND THE PATIENT WITH ENDOCRINE DISEASE. Contemporary Anesthesia Practice. Edited by Burnell R. Brown, Jr., Casey D. Blitt and A.H. Giesecke. 203 pp. Illust. F.A. Davis Company, Philadelphia, 1980. \$24. ISBN 0-8036-1264-8

BASIC IMMUNOLOGY AND ITS MEDICAL APPLICATION. 2nd ed. James T. Barrett. 303 pp. Illust. The C.V. Mosby Company, Saint Louis, 1980. \$18 (Can.), paperbound. ISBN 0-8016-0495-8

BETTER LIVING AND BREATHING. A Manual for Patients. 2nd ed. Kenneth M. Moser, Carol Archibald, Patsy Hansen and others. 94 pp. Illust. The C.V. Mosby Company, Saint Louis, 1980. \$6.75 (Can.), paperbound. ISBN 0-8016-3565-9

CAMPBELL'S OPERATIVE ORTHOPAEDICS. Volumes 1 and 2. 6th ed. Edited by Allen S. Edmonson and A.H. Crenshaw. 2520 pp. Illust. The C.V. Mosby Company, Saint Louis, 1980. \$221. ISBN 0-8016-1071-0

CARDIAC REHABILITATION. Implications for the Nurse and Other Health Professionals. Paul S. Fardy, Janice L. Bennett, Norma L. Reitz and others. 283 pp. Illust. The C.V. Mosby Company, Saint Louis, 1980. \$19.25 (Can.), paperbound. ISBN 0-8016-1610-7